UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1994/878
27 July 1994
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

Letter dated 25 July 1994 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Tunisia to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the appeal made on 23 July 1994 by Mr. Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, President of the Republic of Tunisia and current President of the Organization of African Unity, concerning the situation in Rwanda.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have this letter and the annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Holla BACH TORJI
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex

[Original: Arabic]

Appeal made on 23 July 1994 by the President of the Republic of Tunisia and current President of the Organization of African Unity

The tragedy currently being played out in Rwanda as a result of the distressing events experienced by that fraternal African country represents an almost unparalleled human disaster.

The tragedy is being exacerbated by the daily rise in the number of victims, the terrible increase in the number of refugees and deportees and the appalling spread of famine, disease and epidemics. The situation is the cause of the gravest concern, and a challenge to the conscience of the world.

At this critical time, I implore the fraternal people of Rwanda in its entirety to strive to overcome this trial, in a spirit of solidarity and reconciliation, and in the country's national interest.

I am also addressing a most urgent appeal to the international community and every country in it, together with regional and international organizations and humanitarian agencies, to work together in an urgent initiative to provide whatever aid is necessary to save the Rwandan people, our brothers, and to share in the alleviation of this tragedy.

Achieving this aim will certainly be easier if the international community takes every step necessary to send to Rwanda and widely deploy there, as quickly as possible, an international peace-keeping force, to work towards establishing security and unity in this fraternal country.